

Placement Test

Preparation: You will need a copy of the novel *Who Stole The Wizard of Oz?*. Students being tested should read from the actual novel not from the Placement Test Scoring Sheet. Underline the difficult words from the Placement Test Scoring Sheet in the copy of the novel students will read from. You will need 1 copy of the Placement Test Scoring Sheet for each student you will be testing. You will need a timer.

Instructions for Recording Student Responses and Scoring:

As students read the passage use the following procedure to record errors.

Word read incorrectly: Write what the student said above the word. Count as 1 error.

Added word: Write a caret with the word above it where the word was inserted. Count as 1 error.

Unknown word: Give the student 3 seconds to say the word and then tell him or her the word. Write a T above the told word. Count as 1 error.

Deleted words: Draw a line through any words that are left out. Do not count deleted words when counting the total words read per minute.

Repeated words: Draw a wavy line under the word(s) that were repeated.

Self-correct: Put a check mark above the word.

Repeated words and self-corrected words do not count as errors. Students are already penalized for time with these types of errors.

Record words read per minute (wrpm) and errors on the top part of the Placement Test Scoring Sheet. To calculate the accuracy percentage, use the following formula: Subtract the number of errors from the wrpm. Divide this number by the wrpm. Multiply by 100. Example: $97 \text{ (wrpm)} - 4 \text{ (errors)} = 93$ divided by $97 = .958$ x 100 = 96% accuracy.

Students reading at least 80 wrpm with 90% accuracy can be placed in this novel study. Remember, this is the student's instructional level not his or her independent reading level.

Instructions for Administering the Placement Test

1. Fill in student information on the top portion of the Placement Test Scoring Sheet.

Setting the Scene

2. (*Note: This part of the test can be done individually, with a small group of students, or with a whole class. Hold up a copy of the novel for students to see.) **This book is called *Who Stole the Wizard of Oz?*. Later, each of you will read part of page 3 of this novel aloud to me to help me decide if you are ready to read this book.**

At the beginning of this novel, Becky and her brother, Toby, are thinking about what they want to do during summer vacation. They receive a phone call from the town librarian.

Hard Word Review

3. (Note: This part of the placement test needs to be administered individually. Give the student a copy of the novel open to page 3.)
4. **Some of the hard words are underlined on this page. We will practice these hard words before you read this page aloud to me.**

(Touch under the name Becky.) **This name is Becky. What name? *Becky*. Becky is one of the main characters in this novel.**

(Touch under the divided word summer.) **This word is divided into two parts because there is not enough room on the line. This word is summer. What word? *Summer*.**

(Touch under the divided word Checkertown.) **This word is divided into two parts because there is not enough room on the line. This word is Checkertown. What word?** *Checkertown. Checkertown is the name of the town where Becky and her brother live.*

(Touch under the word Ohio.) **This word is Ohio. What word?** *Ohio. Ohio is the name of the state where Becky and her brother live. What state does Becky and her brother live in?* *Ohio.*

(Touch under the divided word library.) **This word is divided into two parts because there is not enough room on the line. This word is library. What word?** *Library.*

(Touch under the name Mrs. Brattle.) **This name is Mrs. Brattle. What name?** *Mrs. Brattle. Mrs. Brattle is the name of the Checkertown librarian. Who is Mrs. Brattle?* *The Checkertown librarian.*

5. **You will read part of this page aloud to me. I would like you to track under the words with your finger as you read aloud. You will read aloud for 1 minute. I will tell you when to stop reading. Be careful to read exactly what is on the page.** (Start the timer and record student errors as indicated above.)

Placement Test Scoring Sheet for *Who Stole the Wizard of Oz?*

Name of Student: _____ Date: _____
Teacher: _____ Tester: _____
Words Read Per Minute (wrpm) _____ Errors: _____ Accuracy % _____
Placement: _____
Comments: _____

My sister <u>Becky</u> and I were stretched out	8
on the front porch one morning thinking out	16
loud about how we should spend our <u>sum-</u>	24
<u>mer</u> vacation. It was too hot to do much	32
more. At about nine-thirty, a police car	40
turned down our street, then stopped in	47
front of the Checkertown Library. <u>Checker-</u>	53
<u>town, Ohio</u> —that’s our town. Anyway,	58
we watched the policeman go into the <u>li-</u>	66
<u>brary</u> , then we went back to making plans.	73
But half an hour later, the phone rang. Becky	82
jumped up, ran inside, and grabbed it.	89
“Hello?”	90
“Is this Becky?”	93
“Yes.”	94
“This is <u>Mrs. Brattle</u> . The Checkertown	100
librarian.”	101

Excerpt from: Avi. Who Stole The Wizard of Oz?. New York, New York: Dell Yearling, 1981.